Writing Process Inventory

Put a check mark next to the answers that best describes you as a writer.

I write for school…
___ Never
___ Only once or twice a semester
___ Monthly
___ Weekly
___ Daily or close to it

I write for pleasure
___ Never
___ Only once or twice a semester
___ Monthly
___ Weekly
___ Daily or close to it

When I have a paper that’s due in a week, I usually start…
___ The day it’s due
___ The day or night before it’s due
___ Several days before it’s due
___ Soon after I get the assignment

Before I start writing a draft, I…
___ Finalize exactly what I want to argue
___ Think over my ideas
___ Think over my ideas and do some sort of prewriting
___ Think over my ideas and talk them over with someone
___ Think over my ideas, do some sort of prewriting, and talk them over with someone

While I’m writing a first draft, I…
___ Work on a sentence until it’s perfect and then move to the next one
___ Work on chunks until I am fairly happy with my argument and then move on
___ Throw some ideas down on the page without worrying how they sound yet

In constructing my argument, my first priority is…
___ Avoiding errors in punctuation, spelling, and mechanics
___ Sounding good
___ Finding a position I can easily defend
___ Exploring my ideas

Once I have a draft down on paper, my main goal is to…
___ Hand it in; it’s done
___ Correct the grammar, spelling, and punctuation
___ Make it sound good stylistically
___ Fine-tune the organization and the argument by making minor changes
___ Experiment with the organization and the argument, making major changes if necessary

I write multiple drafts of a paper…
___ Multiple drafts? Never!
___ Occasionally
___ Often
___ Always

When I’m working on a paper…
___ I never show it to anyone
___ I sometimes share my writing with others
___ I often ask a friend, instructor, or someone else for feedback
___ I always get feedback